

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Director of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231" on

Attorney Docket No. 7610-0040
PATENT

4



Date: April 16, 2001
Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:
Richard N. ELLSON et al.

Serial No.: 09/751,231

Group Art Unit: 1645

Filing Date: December 29, 2000

Examiner: Unassigned

Title: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR TRACKING CONDITIONS IN AN ASSAY

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Director of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is an Information Disclosure Statement submitted for the Examiner's consideration. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner review and make of record the references identified below.

Form PTO-1449 listing the references accompanies this paper. Applicants would appreciate the Examiner's initialing and returning the form to indicate that the references have been reviewed and made of record. The references are as follows:

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|------------------|
| PATENT NO. | ISSUE DATE | PATENTEE |
| Serial No. 09/669,267 | Filed 9/25/00 | Ellson et al. |
| Serial No. 09/669,996 | Filed 9/25/00 | Ellson et al. |
| Serial No. 09/669,997 | Filed 9/25/00 | Mutz et al. |
| Serial No. 09/712,818 | Filed 11/13/00 | Ellson et al. |
| 4,500,707 | 2/19/85 | Caruthers et al. |
| 5,436,327 | 7/25/95 | Southern et al. |
| 5,700,637 | 12/23/97 | Southern |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | |
|-----------------------|------------|---------------|
| PATENT NO. | ISSUE DATE | PATENTEE |
| 5,744,305 | 4/28/98 | Fodor et al. |
| 5,770,358 | 6/23/98 | Dower et al. |
| 5,800,992 | 9/1/98 | Fodor et al. |
| 5,830,645 | 11/3/98 | Pinkel et al. |
| 5,874,214 | 2/23/99 | Nova et al. |
| 5,935,785 | 8/10/99 | Reber et al. |
| 6,030,581 | 2/29/00 | Virtanen |
| 6,180,351 | 1/30/01 | Cattell |

This Information Disclosure Statement is not intended as a representation that a search has been made, that additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist, or that any of the above references constitutes prior art to the present application within the meaning of 35 USC § 102.

As applicants have not yet received a first Action on the merits, no fee is required for filing this Information Disclosure Statement. If, however, the PTO finds that for some reason a fee is found to be necessary, our Deposit Account No. 18-0580 may be charged therefor. A **duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.**

Respectfully submitted,

4/16/01
Date

By: Dianne E. Reed
Dianne E. Reed
Registration No. 31,292

REED & ASSOCIATES
3282 Alpine Road
Portola Valley, California 94028
(650) 851-8501 Telephone
(650) 851-8539 Facsimile

F:\Document\7610\0040\IDS.wpd